

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 01809 301245Z

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 DHA-02 MCT-01
SY-05 USSS-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SS-15
NSC-05 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 COME-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /065 W
-----301250Z 128656 /47

O 300955Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8854

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL IZMIR IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ADANA IMMEDIATE

CDI KARAMURSEL IMMEDIATE

CAKMAKLI IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 1809

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TU, CASC, PINTS

SUBJECT: PUBLIC FACILITIES BOMBED IN ISTANBUL

REF: ISTANBUL 1808

1. TWO POWERFUL BOMBS EXPLODED IN SEPARATE LOCATIONS OF CITY ON MAY 29 CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE AND RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF HALF A DOZEN PERSONS AND SERIOUS INJURY OF APPROXIMATELY 50 PEOPLE. FORTUNATELY NO AMERICANS WERE KILLED AND AS FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE ONLY ONE AMERICAN WAS SLIGHTLY INJURED. AS REPORTED REFTEL (ISTANBUL 1808) AMCIT WIFE OF TURKISH CITIZEN WAS TAKEN TO NEARBY HOSPITAL AND SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED.

2. FIRST EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE AT MAIN TRAIN STATION ON EUROPEAN SIDE OF CITY (SIRKECI) AT APPROXIMATELY 1600. BLAST REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE IN BAGGAGE AREA OF TRAIN STATION, KNOCKING DOWN
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MASONRY WALLS AND SHATTERING MOST OF THE GLASS IN ROOF OF STATION. NEWS REPORTS ON CASUALTIES ARE CONFLICTING. SEVERAL INDICATE ONE PERSON KILLED AND EIGHT TO TEN INJURED.

3. TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES LATER THERE WAS A POWERFUL EXPLOSION AT YESILKOY AIRPORT (SEE ISTANBUL 1808). REPORTEDLY POLICE HAD ALREADY WARNED AIRPORT OFFICIALS FOLLOWING SIRKECI EXPLOSION AND

THEY WERE IN PROCESS OF CHECKING BAGGAGE. BLAST WHICH
INFLECTED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE OCCURRED NEAR LOCATION WHERE INTER-
NATIONAL PASSENGERS DEPART AIRPORT BUILDING. MOST NEWSPAPERS
REPORT THAT FIVE PERSONS WERE KILLED AND 42 INJURED (INITIAL REPORTS
HAD BEEN 2 KILLED AND UP TO 30 INJURED). DAMAGE TO AREA
HAS NECESSITATED SHIFTING ARRIVALS ON INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS
TO SEPARATE BUILDING NORMALLY USED FOR HANDLING CHARTER FLIGHTS.

4. COMMENT: NO ONE HAS YET CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY (OR CREDIT)
FOR THESE BOMBINGS AND POLICE ARE AVOIDING SPECULATION.
HOWEVER, IT SEEMS LIKELY THEY WERE DESIGNED TO HAVE IMPACT
ON ELECTION CAMPAIGN WHICH IS NOW IN ITS FINAL WEEK.
ANOTHER DISTURBING ASPECT IS THAT BOMBS CONSIDERABLY
MORE POWERFUL THAN THOSE USED IN PREVIOUS BOMBINGS
AND IT SEEMS CLEAR THEY WERE INTENDED TO INFLICT EXTENSIVE
CASUALTIES SINCE THEIR LOCATION AND TIME OF EXPLOSIONS
VIRTUALLY GUARANTEED THAT THERE WOULD BE LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE
GATHERED AT THESE PUBLIC FACILITIES.
OGDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, DEATHS, CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ISTANB01809
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770192-0859
Format: TEL
From: ISTANBUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977055/aaaaadua.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f6883d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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